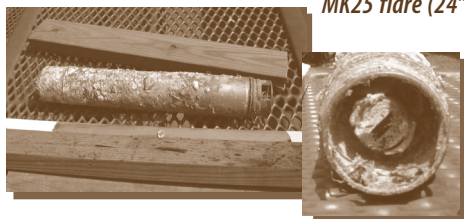


Ordnance & Explosives (OE) Warning:

Ordnance items have recently been found at Buckroe Beach buried in the surf 12 to 18 inches deep. While it is unlikely that ordnance items will be encountered on the beach, visitors should treat any suspect item with caution. **Disturbing ordnance items or flares may result in injury or contact with a hazardous substance.**



76mm anti-aircraft projectile (12" x 3")



MK25 flare (24" x 4")

Safety Tips:

Only ordnance specialists can tell if an item contains explosives or hazardous substances. If you encounter a suspect item:

- **Do not touch it, move it, or disturb it!**
- Note the location of the item.
- Call 911 to report it.
- Contact a lifeguard or park ranger (if present) to secure the area.

Points of Contact:

Hampton Parks & Recreation

Jim Wilson
(757) 727-6348

Hampton Public Communications Office
(757) 728-3501

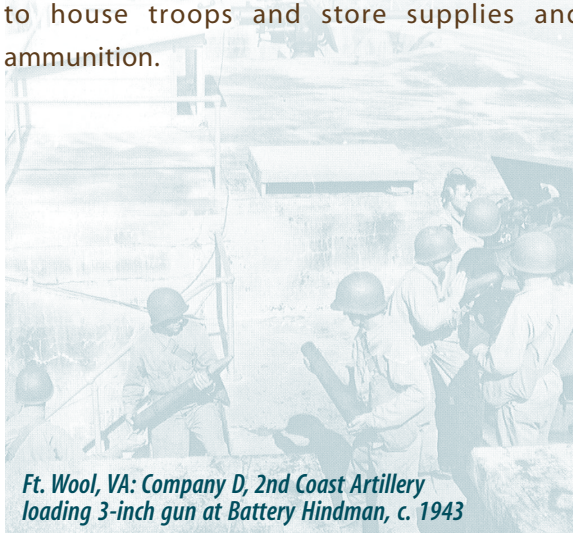
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Adriane James
Project Manager
757-441-7701

Area History

The ordnance items found at Buckroe Beach were used during World War I & II by the Army and Navy for coastal defense. These items most likely resulted from practice and training exercises that took place offshore during that time. The 76mm anti-aircraft rounds are not currently used by the military.

While Buckroe Beach was never owned by the federal government, it is in close proximity to Fort Wool/also known as Fort Calhoun and Fort Monroe. Fort Monroe began operations in 1836 and served as army artillery school in the 19th Century, Coastal Artillery School in the early 20th Century, Headquarters for the Defense of the Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads Port, and a training/staging area for troops during WWII. Fort Calhoun was constructed in 1818 and its mission was to defend the Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads. During WWI & WWII, Fort Calhoun was used to house troops and store supplies and ammunition.



Ft. Wool, VA: Company D, 2nd Coast Artillery loading 3-inch gun at Battery Hindman, c. 1943

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2003 Ordnance Investigation

What you should know when visiting



Buckroe Beach



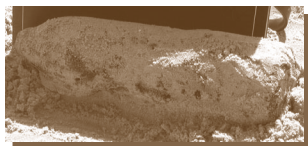
U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Norfolk District

What is Ordnance?

Ordnance is a word to describe military ammunition, components, or explosives.

Ordnance at Buckroe Beach?

Three 76mm anti-aircraft ordnance items were found by local metal detector hobbyists at the



76mm used during WWI and WWII

beach in the summer 2002. These items were found under water a foot or more below the surface and buried in 12 to 18 inches of sand. The source of the ordnance is believed to be a 1990 beach replenishment that inadvertently dredged offshore sand containing the ordnance from an area previously used for military training. They were removed safely by a Langley Air Force Base Explosive Ordnance disposal team.

Other Recent Findings

Three MK25 flares were also found on the beach in 2002. These flares are used for lighting by the military to mark night training exercise areas. They are not explosive, but could pose a fire hazard and contain hazardous material.



What's being done?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Hampton, EPA, and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality are working together to enhance safety at Buckroe Beach.

Immediate Safety Measures

As an immediate safety measure, the City has temporarily prohibited digging and the

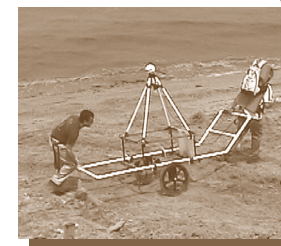


use of metal detectors on the beach until the Army Corps can complete a thorough surface sweep in 2003. The City also grooms the beach daily during the beach season, screening out all debris from the top 6 to 8 inches of sand and has educated City employees about how to respond to ordnance findings.

An interagency team has initiated a public education effort to inform the community and visitors about the potential presence of ordnance at Buckroe Beach and safety measures. These safety measures have been discussed with the Buckroe Beach Civic Association on December 10, 2002 and at a public meeting on February 27, 2003 coordinated by the City. Public input is important to the success of this effort.

Ordnance Sweep

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is scheduled to conduct a sweep along the public section of Buckroe Beach in March and April 2003.



Ordnance sweep equipment

The sweep will involve ordnance experts with special metal detecting equipment. The Corps will investigate the public portion of the beach grid by grid. Any ordnance found will be disposed of immediately. The investigation is expected to take six to eight weeks to complete and will address the dry beach, the areas between high and low tide, and shallow water at low tide. The U.S. Army Corps' goal is to complete the investigation sweep at the beach before the next beach season.

Long Term Safety Efforts

Following the investigation in early 2003, the Corps will conduct a study to assess long-term safety measures to prevent future occurrences.

For More Information

Adriane James

Project Manager

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District

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